

Message Text

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ORIGIN ERDA-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 OES-07 FEA-01 EB-08 AID-05
CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07
INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05 USIA-15
SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-10 /115 R

DRAFTED BY USERDA/AIA:R V WILLIT:IAN
APPROVED BY OES/NET DHOYLE
USERDA/AIA: G F HELFRICH
NEA/IRN: C NAAS
FEA/IEA - J MORRIS
EB/ORF/FSE:WRAMOAY

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R 241944Z AUG 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: TECH, ENRG

SUBJECT: US-IRAN ENERGY COMMITTEE MEETING

1. FOLLOWING IS DRAFT AGREED RECORD OF SECOND US-IRAN ENERGY COMMITTEE MEETING.
2. EMBASSY REQUESTED TO REVIEW DRAFT WITH CYRUS MANZOOR, DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF INTERNATIONAL AND LEGAL AFFAIRS, AEOI, AND INFORM US OF ANY REVISIONS HE SUGGESTS.
3. THE SECOND MEETING OF THE ENERGY COMMITTEE OF THE US-IRAN JOINT COMMISSION MET IN WASHINGTON, AUGUST 8-10, 1977. THE IRANIAN DELEGATION WAS LED BY DR. AKBAR ETEMAD, PRESIDENT OF THE ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION OF IRAN (AEOI).

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THE UNITED STATES DELEGATION WAS LED BY MR. ROBERT FRI, ACTING ADMINISTRATOR OF THE US ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION (ERDA).

4. DISCUSSIONS DURING THE THREE DAYS OF MEETINGS COVERED A BROAD RANGE OF SUBJECTS. IN THE NUCLEAR AREA THESE INCLUDED THE INTERNATIONAL FUEL CYCLE EVALUATION PROGRAM,

STORAGE OF SPENT REACTOR FUEL, ALTERNATIVE FUEL CYCLES AND IMPROVED LIGHT WATER REACTOR FUEL UTILIZATION, URANIUM RESOURCE EVALUATION AND NUCLEAR POWER PLANT COOLING SYSTEMS.

5. WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE US NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION, DISCUSSIONS CONCERNED COOPERATION IN VARIOUS ASPECTS OF REACTOR SAFETY.

6. IN THE NON-NUCLEAR AREA, DISCUSSIONS WERE HELD CONCERNING WORK IN ENHANCED OIL RECOVERY, SOLAR ENERGY AND GEOTHERMAL ENERGY. THE GENERAL SUBJECT OF CONSERVATION WAS ALSO ADDRESSED.

7. DISCUSSIONS WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE FEDERAL ENERGY ADMINISTRATION INCLUDED ENERGY ANALYSIS, RESOURCE ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY, DOWNSTREAM OPERATIONS IN OIL, THE STATUS OF LIQUIFIED NATURAL GAS TRADE AND POSSIBLE COOPERATION IN PROCESSES AND TECHNOLOGY FOR HYDROCARBON UTILIZATION.

8. DR. ETEMAD AND MR. FRI TOOK NOTE OF PAST COOPERATIVE ACTIVITIES THAT HAD OCCURRED PURSUANT TO THE FIRST ENERGY COMMITTEE MEETING IN JANUARY 1975, INCLUDING VISITS BY AN IRANIAN SOLAR ENERGY TEAM BOTH TO ERDA AND PRIVATE SOLAR ENERGY FACILITIES, A DESALTING SEMINAR HELD AT OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY, AND ARRANGEMENTS PRESENTLY UNCLASSIFIED

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BEING MADE FOR AN IRANIAN SCIENTIST TO WORK FOR SEVERAL MONTHS AT ERDA'S SOLAR ENERGY FACILITIES AT SANDIA LABORATORIES IN ESTABLISHING A COMPUTER MODEL FOR A TOTAL ENERGY SYSTEM FOR AN IRANIAN VILLAGE. DR. ETEMAD ALSO NOTED THAT IRAN WOULD SOON SIGN A CONTRACT WITH ERDA UNDER WHICH OAK RIDGE ASSOCIATED UNIVERSITIES WOULD ADMINISTER A TRAINING PROGRAM FOR APPROXIMATELY 25 IRANIANS IN SUBJECTS CONCERNED WITH IRAN'S ENERGY PROGRAM.

9. WITH RESPECT TO FUTURE COOPERATION, THE FOLLOWING NEW AREAS WERE IDENTIFIED AND THE TWO SIDES AGREED TO CONSULT ON SPECIFIC ARRANGEMENTS TO CARRY OUT THESE NEW COOPERATIVE ACTIVITIES.

10. FOSSIL. IRAN AND THE US HAVE MUTUAL INTEREST IN TECHNIQUES FOR THE ENHANCED RECOVERY OF OIL, INCLUDING THERMAL METHODS, CO-2 MISCIBLE FLOODING AND PRESSURE MAINTENANCE BY NATURAL GAS INJECTION. THE IRANIAN DELEGATION EXPRESSED INTEREST IN OBTAINING ERDA ASSISTANCE IN TRAINING IRANIAN PERSONNEL IN AREAS OF ADVANCED OIL AND GAS TECHNOLOGY. ERDA WILL PROVIDE IRAN WITH INFORMATION REGARDING ITS ON-GOING RESEARCH AND

DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES AND RELATED FACILITIES IN OIL AND GAS RECOVERY, FOLLOWING WHICH IRAN WILL DETERMINE ITS SPECIFIC INTERESTS IN COOPERATION.

11. SOLAR. AREAS OF MUTUAL INTEREST IN THE SOLAR FIELD INCLUDE TOTAL ENERGY SYSTEMS, SOLAR THERMAL ENERGY SYSTEMS, PHOTOVOLTAICS, HEATING AND COOLING AND AGRICULTURAL APPLICATIONS OF SOLAR ENERGY.

12. IT WAS AGREED THAT A DELEGATION OF US EXPERTS WOULD VISIT IRAN IN THE FALL OF 1977 TO PREPARE PROPOSALS FOR SPECIFIC COOPERATIVE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS AND TO DISCUSS OTHER MEANS OF FURTHERING APPLICATIONS OF SOLAR ENERGY IN BOTH COUNTRIES.

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13. URANIUM EXPLORATION. THE FOLLOWING POINTS WERE AGREED TO WITH RESPECT TO COOPERATION IN URANIUM EXPLORATION:

(A) REPRESENTATIVES OF ERDA AND THE AEOI WILL MEET PERIODICALLY TO DISCUSS THE IRANIAN URANIUM EXPLORATION PROGRAM.

(B) ERDA AGREES TO ACCOMMODATE A LIMITED NUMBER OF IRANIAN URANIUM EXPERTS FOR SHORT PERIODS OF ON-THE-JOB TRAINING. THE EXACT SCOPE AND NATURE OF SUCH TRAINING WILL BE DETERMINED IN ADVANCE.

(C) TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE ERDA WILL, FROM TIME TO TIME, REVIEW AND PROVIDE ADVICE ON VARIOUS TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF IRAN'S URANIUM EXPLORATION PROGRAM.

14. NUCLEAR SAFETY

(A) THE US NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION (NRC) AND THE ATOMIC ENERGY ORGANIZATION OF IRAN (AEOI) DRAFTED DESCRIPTIONS OF THE TWO NUCLEAR ENERGY SAFETY ADVISOR POSITIONS THE REQUEST FOR THE RECRUITMENT OF WHICH WERE RECENTLY TRANSMITTED TO NRC THROUGH THE IAEA BY IRAN, AND NRC WILL ASSIST IN RECRUITING AMERICANS FOR THESE POSITIONS.

(B) WITHIN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS AEOI WILL PROPOSE TWO AEOI EMPLOYEES TO BE ASSIGNED WITHIN THE NRC TO GAIN EXPERIENCE IN NUCLEAR REGULATORY ACTIVITIES.

(C) NRC AND AEOI AGREED THAT THE EXISTING EXCHANGE
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ARRANGEMENT PROVIDES A SUFFICIENT BASIS FOR CONTINUATION OF AD HOC CONSULTATION ON CURRENT TOPICS OF COOPERATION SIMILAR TO THE RECENT US PARTICIPATION IN SEISMIC DESIGN REVIEWS CONDUCTED BY THE AEOI.

(D) M. FARZIN AND J. LAFLEUR WILL CONTINUE TO SERVE AS "ADMINISTRATORS" WITHIN THE NRC-AEOI ARRANGEMENT. OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO ORGANIZATIONS WILL NORMALLY FLOW THROUGH DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS.

15. ENERGY AND ECONOMIC ANALYSIS; OIL AND GAS. THE DELEGATIONS AGREED TO EXCHANGE INFORMATION ON SPECIFIC RESULTS OF WORLD-WIDE SUPPLY-DEMAND MODELING AT SOME APPROPRIATE TIME IN THE FUTURE. THE US WILL ENDEAVOR TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON OECD DEMAND STRUCTURE AS AFFECTED BY DOMESTIC PRICING, TAX, ECONOMIC AND ENERGY POLICIES, INSTITUTIONAL FACTORS, TECHNOLOGY AND POTENTIAL R AND D STRATEGIES.

16. BOTH DELEGATIONS ALSO AGREED TO EXCHANGE INFORMATION ON:

(A) METHODOLOGIES USEFUL IN ASSESSING ENERGY RESERVES, PARTICULARLY OIL AND GAS RESERVES, WHICH MIGHT NOT BE AVAILABLE OR BE BETTER THAN THAT AVAILABLE FROM THE OIL AND GAS INDUSTRIES;

(B) FUTURE PLANS, ISSUES AND CONSIDERATIONS WITH REGARD TO BUILDING A JOINT EXPORT REFINERY IN IRAN FOR THE PURPOSE OF INCREASING THE EXPORT OF PETROLEUM, AND PRESENT AND FUTURE US POLICIES WITH REGARD TO PETROLEUM PRODUCT IMPORTS.

17. THE US DELEGATION AGREED TO PROVIDE THE IRANIAN DELEGATION WITH ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON US GOVERNMENT POLICY TOWARDS LIQUIFIED NATURAL GAS IMPORTS AND PIPELINE UNCLASSIFIED

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GAS.

18. BOTH DR. ETEMAD AND MR. FRI AGREED ON THE VALUE OF THE PRESENT MEETING IN FURTHERING AN UNDERSTANDING OF EACH COUNTRY'S ENERGY PROGRAMS AND IDENTIFYING NEW AREAS WHERE COOPERATION WOULD BE OF MUTUAL BENEFIT. THEY FURTHER AGREED THAT THE MOMENTUM GENERATED BY THIS MEETING SHOULD

BE A FACTOR IN STRENGTHENING THE GENERAL COOPERATION
BETWEEN IRAN AND THE UNITED STATES. END OF AGREED RECORD.

19. IN LIEU OF RELEASING ABOVE AGREED RECORD TO THE PRESS
WHICH THE IRANIANS DID NOT WISH TO DO, THE FOLLOWING PRESS
GUIDANCE HAS BEEN PREPARED:

20. QUOTE THE ENERGY COMMITTEE OF THE U.S.-IRAN JOINT
COMMISSION MET IN WASHINGTON AUGUST 8-10 UNDER THE JOINT
CHAIRMANSHIP OF DR. AKBAR ETEMAD, ASSISTANT TO THE
PRIME MINISTER AND PRESIDENT OF THE ATOMIC ENERGY ORGANI-
ZATION OF IRAN AND MR. ROBERT FRI, ACTING ADMINISTRATOR
OF THE ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION.
THE TWO SIDES CONDUCTED A BROAD REVIEW OF A VARIETY OF
ENERGY MATTERS INCLUDING SOLAR ENERGY, FOSSIL FUELS, AND
NUCLEAR POWER. BOTH SIDES IDENTIFIED NUMEROUS PROMISING
AND IMPORTANT POSSIBILITIES FOR MUTUAL COOPERATION IN

THESE FIELDS AND AGREED THAT VARIOUS SPECIFIC COOPERA-
TIVE PROGRAMS SHOULD BE DEVELOPED IN THE YEAR AHEAD.

21. IN ADDITION, THERE WAS A USEFUL EXCHANGE REGARDING
THE PROPOSED AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND
IRAN ON THE PEACEFUL USES OF ATOMIC ENERGY. BOTH SIDES
REAFFIRMED THEIR INTEREST IN CONCLUDING SUCH AN AGREE-
MENT AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE DATE. IT WAS AGREED THAT
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THE TWO SIDES WOULD CONTINUE THEIR DISCUSSIONS PENDING
THE ENACTMENT OF LEGISLATION ON NUCLEAR EXPORTS NOW
BEFORE THE U.S. CONGRESS.

22. DURING HIS VISIT TO WASHINGTON, DR. ETEMAD CALLED
ON SECRETARY OF ENERGY SCHLESINGER FOR AN EXCHANGE OF
VIEWS. END QUOTE.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ENERGY, COMMITTEE MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 24-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE201893
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: R V WILLIT:IAN
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770306-0791
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770827/aaaaawov.tel
Line Count: 265
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: e71e1054-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN ERDA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1496757
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: US-IRAN ENERGY COMMITTEE MEETING
TAGS: TECH, ENRG, US, IR
To: TEHRAN
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/e71e1054-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009